

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NIAMEY 03219 251216Z
ACTION AF-10

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AGENCY FOR AF, PGM/RC

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E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION: OAU SUMMIT

1. JULY 24 DAILY "LE SAHEL" DEVOTES MORE THAN FOUR OF ITS EIGHT PAGES TO OAU SUMMIT. FRONT PAGE ARTICLE REPORTS AIRPORT INTERVIEW WITH PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE UPON HIS RETURN FROM OAU SUMMIT. FULL PAGE ARTICLE WITH PHOTO SSYA "ALL THE IMPORTANT PROBLEMS WERE RAISED" AT SUMMIT. IN RESPONDING TO QUESTIONS FROM JOURNALISTS, PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE SAYS KHARTOUM SUMMIT, MORE THAN ANY OTHER SUMMIT, HAS HIGHLIGHTED THE GULF WHICH SEPARATES CERTAIN MEMBER STATES, BECAUSE SOME STATES ARE MEDDLING IN THE AFFAIRS OF OTHERS, AND BECAUSE OF OUTSIDE INTERVENTION. HE SAYS THESE FACTORS PERMITTED A FRANK AND "DIRECT" DISCUSSION OF SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS, THE CONDEMNATION OF FOREIGN INTERFERENCE IN ANY FORM AND FROM ANY SOURCE, SOLIDARITY AND COOPERATION, AS WELL AS THE RECALLING OF CERTAIN PRINCIPALS" OF THE OAU CHARTER. THE PRESIDENT CONTINUED, "CONTRARY TO WHAT THE PRESS HAS SAID DURING THE COURSE OF THE MEETING, NEVER
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HAS A SUMMIT BEEN SO DECISIVE. THAT IS TO SAY, NEVER HAS A SUMMIT BEEN SO CONSCIOUS OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR CONTINENT AT THE ECONOMIC AS WELL AS AT THE POLITICAL LEVEL." HE POINTS OUT THREE BURNING PROBLEMS DISCUSSED AT SUMMIT AS DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SOMALIA AND ETHIOPIA, BETWEEN ETHIOPIA AND SUDAN, AND CHAD-LIBYA.

2. PAGE TWO AND THREE CARRY TEXT OF PRESIDENT KOUNTCHES
SPEECH ON OPENING DAY OF SUMMIT.

3. NIAMEY WEEKLY "SAHEL HEBDO" CARRIES FULL TEXT PRESIDENT
KOUNTCHES AIRPORT INTERVIEW. DESPITE USE OF QUOTATION
MARKS IN BOTH REPORTS, WORDING OF TEXTS DIFFERS. ITEM. CROCKETT

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Message Attributes

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